



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

T - 04 - 04

For Immediate Release
January 14, 2004

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DTSC Certifies Applied Biosystems Site

Berkeley - - The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced certification of the hazardous substances clean up at the Applied Biosystems site located at 6001 Sunol Boulevard in Pleasanton. The certification allows for unrestricted land use and redevelopment of the property.

DTSC's certification means that all environmental clean up activities required by a cleanup plan approved in 1997 are complete. The recent cleanup activities completed in December 2002 concludes a series of cleanup efforts that have occurred at the Applied Biosystems facility since 1990.

The Applied Biosystems site is one of many "brownfields" throughout California where DTSC has supervised the cleanup and certified the property for reuse. Brownfields are agricultural, industrial, or abandoned properties that are contaminated or thought to be contaminated, and are underutilized due to environmental cleanup costs or liability concerns.

"One of DTSC's main priorities is cleaning up the State's brownfields," said DTSC Director Ed Lowry. "We are pleased to see that the Applied Biosystems site can now be reused productively to expand the company's facilities and create new jobs."

Applied Biosystems purchased the 80-acre property from Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation in September 2000. Kaiser operated an aluminum research, development, and testing facility at the site since 1969. Kaiser's operations at the site resulted in soil being contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and petroleum hydrocarbons.

During cleanup activities, contaminated soils were excavated and disposed offsite at an appropriately permitted facility. Excavated areas were backfilled with clean soils to meet unrestricted use standards.

A deed restriction preventing the use of groundwater was placed on a small portion of the site with groundwater contamination, comprising approximately one-half acre, to prevent exposure to contaminants.

Applied Biosystems plans to develop the property into a corporate campus. Two buildings have already been built. When fully developed, the campus will consist of six buildings and house hundreds of employees.

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.